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- 647 Ashurbanipal invades Elam
- 642 Amon becomes king in Judah
- 640 Josiah becomes king in Judah
- 640 Assyrians under Ashurbanipal conquer Elamites
- 630 All of Philistia comes under Egyptian control
- 628 Josiah begins to repair and renovate the temple
- 628 The Book of Zephaniah, Zeph. 1, 2 & 3
- 627> Birth of Jeremiah?
- 626 - 539 The Neo-Babylonian Empire ++
- 626 - 605 Nabopolassar is founder of the Neo-Babylonian Dynasty
- 626 Nabopolassar lays siege to Assyrian garrison at Nippur
- 625 Earliest coinage, found in Ephesus
- 623> Birth of Ezekiel?
- 621> Birth of Daniel?
- 622 Nabopolassar claims Nippur for the Babylonians
- 622 Hilkiah the priest finds Book of the Law in the temple
- 622 The reforms of Josiah (2 Kings 22:1-20) ++
- 622 Celebration of the Passover as a climax to Josiah's reform effort (2 Kings 23:1-25)
- 616 - 594 Babylonian Chronicle records campaigns of Nebuchadnezzar
- 616 Egypt sends help to Assyria to stop the Babylonian attack
- 615 Nabopolassar fails to conquer Nineveh and Asshur
- 614 Nabopolassar establishes peace treaty with Cyaxeres, king of the Medes
- 612 The Medes and Babylonians drive the Assyrians out of Nineveh
- 612 Fall of Assyria to the Medes and Babylonians

**YEAR**

**EVENTS (this page - 5 YEARS)**

- 610 - 595 Pharaoh Necho II of Egypt is foe of Babylon
- 610 Nabopolassar of Babylon attacks Haran and scatters the Assyrian and Egyptian armies
- 609 The last Assyrian king, Ashuruballit II, fails to recover the city of Haran from the Babylonians
- 609 Pharaoh Necho of Egypt moves army northward to help the Assyrians against Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon
- 609> Jeremiah begins prophecy – ch 1 to ch 6
- 609 The Book of Nahum
- 609 Record of the last days of Josiah 2 Chr. 35:20 — 36:4
- 609 Pharaoh Necho kills King Josiah of Judah at Megiddo (2 Kin. 23:28-34) ++
- 609 Jehoahaz becomes king in Judah
- 609 Necho replaces Jehoahaz with his half brother Eliakim
- 609 Jehoiakim and Jehoiachin, 2 Kin. 23:35-37; 2 Chr. 36
- 609 Necho gives Eliakim the throne name "Jehoiakim" (2 Chr.36:4)
- 609 Jehoiakim becomes king in Judah
- 605 Jehoiakim's 3rd year according to the Babylonian method of counting in Book of Daniel
- 605 Jehoiakim's 4th year according to the Judean method of counting in Book of Jeremiah
- 605 - 562 Nebuchadnezzar II takes the throne (Nabopolassar dies - co-regency ends)
- 605 Jeremiah's Temple Sermon, Jer. 26:1-6; 7:1; 8:3; 26:7-24; 11:1; 12:17
- 605 Nebuchadnezzar defeats Necho at Carchemish Jer. 47:1-7; 46:1-12; 13:1; 8:1-17 ++ \*\*
- 605 - 601 Nebuchadnezzar campaigns in Syria-Palestine each year
- 605 Jeremiah's Scroll; Jer. 36:1-10; 25:1-14; 36:11-32; 45: 15:10-21
- 605 The Droughts; Jer. 14:1 - 15:9; 16:1 - 17:27; 8:4-10:
- 605> Deportation of Judeans, including Daniel, from Jerusalem \*\* (2 Kin. 24:1-14; 2Ch 36:5-7)

YEAR

EVENTS (this page - 7 YEARS)

- 604 - 603
- Nebuchadnezzar exacts tribute from many Palestinian rulers
- 604 >
- Daniel in Babylon (+/-17 yrs of age?) Dan 1:1-21
- 604
- Ashkelon's king Aga killed and prisoners deported to Babylon
- 604
- Baruch reads Jeremiah's scroll at the temple (Jer.36:10)
- 604
- Jehoiakim burns Jeremiah's scroll (Jer.36:22, 23)
- 604
- Nebuchadnezzar destroys Philistine city
- 603
- Necho repels a Babylonian during campaign in Palestine
- 601
- invasion of Egypt's border
- 601
- Jehoiakim's Rebellion Against Babylon, 2 Kin. 24:1
- 601
- The Rechabites, Jer. 35:1-19
- 601 >
- Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dream of image, Dan. 2:1
- 600
- False Prophets, Jer. 23:9-40; 18:18; 20:18
- 600
- Greeks adopt from the East the custom of reclining at feasts
- 599
- Nebuchadnezzar remains in Babylon to resupply his army
- 598
- Nebuchadnezzar leaves Babylon in December to campaign against Judah
- 598 - 597
- Nebuchadnezzar besieges Jerusalem
- 598
- King Jehoiakim dies, possibly during siege of Jerusalem
- 598
- Jehoiachin becomes king in Judah 2 Kin. 24:5,6
- 598
- Do Not Hope in King Jehoiachin; 2 Kin. 24:5-9; Jer. 22:18-30; 13:15-27
- 598
- Jehoiachin Is Taken Captive; 2 Kin. 24:10-17 released in 561 (2 Kin.25:27)
- 597
- Nebuchadnezzar captures Jerusalem and deposes King Jehoiachin
- 597>
- The prophet Ezekiel is among Judeans deported to Babylon (+/- 26 yrs of age)
- 597
- Nebuchadnezzar replaces Jehoiachin with his uncle Mattaniah
- 597
- Nebuchadnezzar gives Mattaniah the throne name "Zedekiah" (2 Kin. 24:17)

- 597 Zedekiah becomes king in Judah; 2 Chr. 36:11 Jeremiah foretells his destiny Jer. 24:1
- 597 Zedekiah's Jerusalem Conference, Jer. 27:1-11; 48:1-49:39; 25:15-38; 27:12-28:17 \*\*
- 597 Zedekiah's Alliances, 2 Kin. 24:18,19; Jer. 52:1,2
- 596 Letter to the Exiles to settle down in Bablyon for the long term Jer. 29:1-32
- 595 Oracles Against Babylon, Jer 50 & 51
- 594 Hanging Gardens of Babylon built
- 594 Aristocrat Solon is appointed archon in Athens
- 594 Solon begins democratic reforms in Greece
- 593 King Zedekiah is summoned to Babylon (Jer. 51:59-64)
- 593 Ezekiel receives his prophetic call (+/- 30 yrs of age?)
- 592 > Ezekiel begins prophecies Ezek. 1:1; 3:21
- 591 Pharaoh Psammetichus II of Egypt visits Palestine
- 591 Psammetichus marches to Asia
- 589 Ussher's date for the destruction of the temple
- 592 Ezekiel has vision of the Jerusalem temple Ezek. 8, 9, 10, 11
- 592 Elders of Judah sit before Ezekiel (Ezek. 8:1)
- 591 Certain elders inquire of the Lord from Ezekiel (Ezek.20:1)
- 590 > Ezekiel's Oracles Before the Fall of Jerusalem, Ezek. 13:1; 18:32; Ezek.20:1; 21:17; Ezek. 22:1-22; Ezek. 23:1-49
- 588 Israel & Ammon rebel, Ezek. 21:18-32; 24:1-27
- 589 Ezekiel's Sign Acts, Ezek. 3; 4; 5; 6; 7
- 589 - 570 Hophra, pharaoh of Egypt, resides at Memphis
- 588 King Zedekiah revolts against the Babylonians 2 Chr. 36:13-16
- 588 - 586 Nebuchadnezzar besieges Jerusalem



- 587 Pharaoh Hophra forces the Babylonian armies to lift the siege from Jerusalem Jer.37:5; Ezek. 29:1-16; 30:20; 31:18
- 587 A Lull in the Siege +++ Jer.37:1-21; 30; 31; 32; 33; 23:1-8; 38:1-28
- 587 Jeremiah attempts to visit Anathoth but is arrested and placed in a dungeon Jer 37:15
- 586 Lachish Letters probably written shortly before Jerusalem's capture
- 586 Jerusalem falls to the Babylonians 2 Kin. 25:4-7; Jer. 52:7-11; 39:1-7; 2 Kin. 25:8-21; Jer. 52:12-27; 39:8-10; 2 Chr. 36:17-21
- 586 - 538 The exile of Judah to Babylon ++
- 586 Hophra accepts Judean refugees in Egypt
- 586 Gedaliah is appointed governor of Judah, 2 Kin. 25:22-26; Jer. 39:11; Jer 44:30
- 586 The End of the Siege, Ezek. 12:1-28
- 585 Has God Renounced the Covenant with David?, Ps. 89
- 585 - 572 Nebuchadnezzar's 13-year siege of Tyre, Ezek 28:21
- 585 News of Jerusalem's fall reaches the exiles, Ezek. 33:21; 19:1-14; 22:23-31
- 585 The Book of Lamentations, Lam. 1:1—5:22
- 585 Oracles Against Judah's Neighbors, Ezek. 25:1; 28:26; 32:1-32
- 586 Despair and Anger, Ps. 137
- 585 The Medes incorporate the kingdom of Ararat into the Median Empire
- 582 - 581 Nebuchadnezzar defeats Ammon
- 581 The Book of Obadiah, Obad. 1:1—21
- 581 Babylonian official Nebuzaradan deports captives from Jerusalem (Jer.52:30)
- 575 Greeks use saws for cutting
- 573 The prophet Ezekiel receives visions of the new temple
- 571 Ezekiel prophesies 4 years before Babylonian invasion of the west

**YEAR****EVENTS (this page - 34 YEARS)**

- 570 Pharaoh Hophra flees Egypt in a revolt led by Egyptian general Amasis
- 570 - 526 Pharaoh Amasis allows Greeks to settle in Egypt's Delta
- 567 Hophra joins with Nebuchadnezzar to invade Egypt
- 567 Amasis repels the Babylonians, and Hophra is killed
- 560 - 556 Neriglissar, king of Babylon, was possibly known earlier as Nergal-Sharezer (Jer.39:3)
- 562 - 560 **Nebuchadnezzar's dream of tree: Evil-Merodach succeeds as king of Babylon** (Dan 4)
- 561 **Evil-Merodach releases Jehoiachin from prison** (2 Kin.25:27)
- 556 **Nabonidus (Nebuchadnezzar?) takes over the throne of Babylon** (Dan 4)
- 555 Anaximander proposes a mathematical model of the universe
- 553 Nabonidus exiles himself to Tema
- 553 Bel-shar-user (son of Nabonidus - also called Belshazzar) becomes co-regent in Babylon
- 550 - 350 Sparta develops the best defensive army in Greece
- 550 Cyrus defeats the Median Empire and King Astyages
- 550 Cyrus successfully unites the Persian and Median tribes
- 547 Cyrus defeats Lydia and King Croesus
- 539 **Vision of handwriting on the wall "MENE MENE TEKEL UPHARSIN"** Dan 5
- 539 **Cyrus conquers Babylon-Daniel illustrates his faith** (Dan 6) **Visions of Beasts, etc** Dan 7, 8, 9
- 539 **Isaiah 200 years prev (700 BC) foretells the Fall of Babylon, Is. 13:1-14:23; 21; 33; 34; 35;**
- 538 Cyrus cylinder announces that Marduk chose Cyrus to conquer the world
- 538 **Cyrus issues proclamation of freedom for the Jews, Ezra 1:2-4**
- 538 **First group of exiles returns to Jerusalem**
- 538 **Sheshbazzar returns temple vessels to Jerusalem**
- 537 **Zurubabel and Jeshua begin construction of a new temple, Ezra 3:8**
- 536 **Work stopped on Jerusalem temple, Ezra 4:23,24 > Daniel's Visions etc** (Dan 10,11,12)

**YEAR****EVENTS (this page - 80 YEARS)**

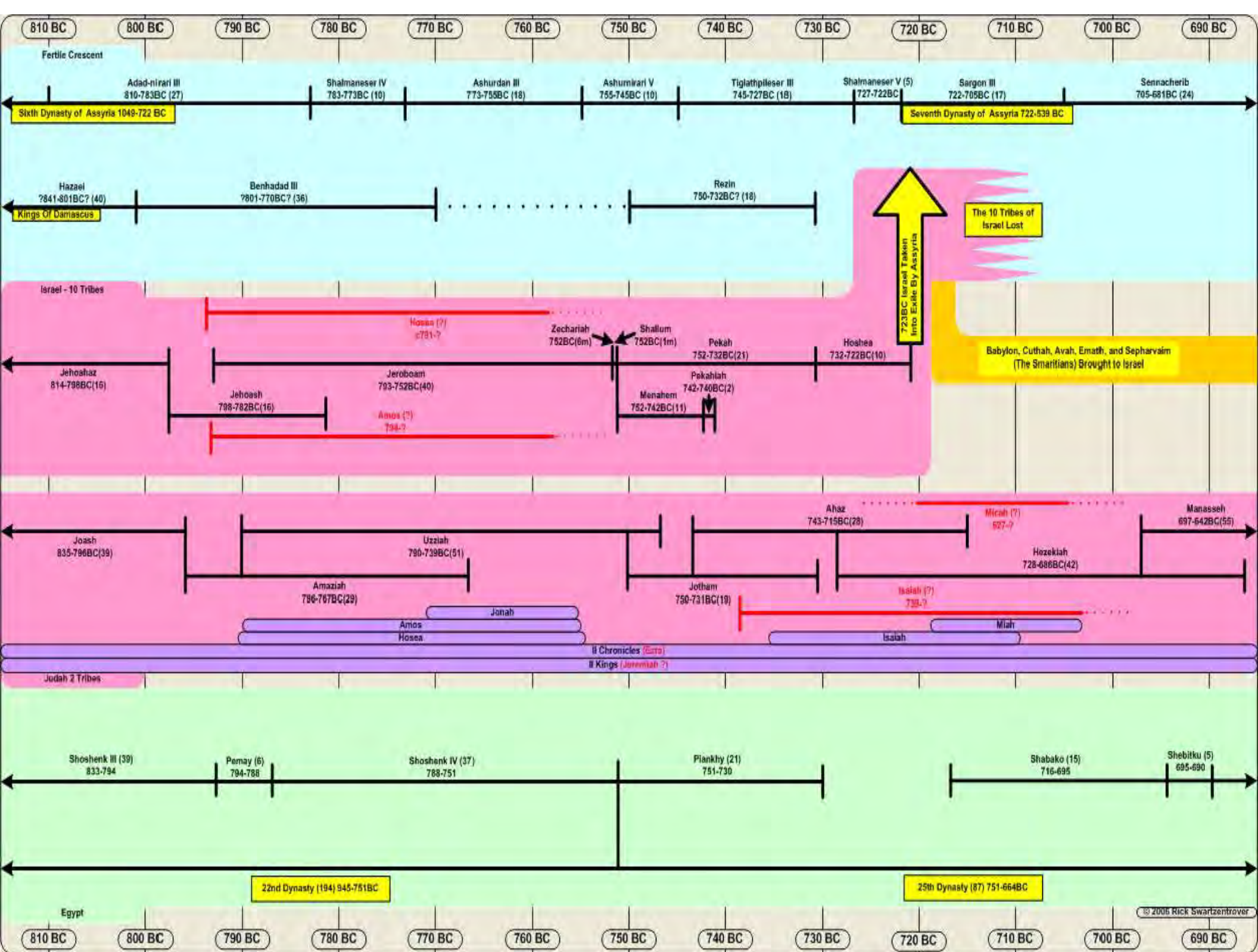
- 535 Daniel's Visions of Beasts ([Dan 7](#), [8](#), [9](#))
- 533 Daniel's Resurrection Parable - Dan 10
- 533 Daniel's Prophecy of the Greeks, Romans & time of the end – Dan 11
- 533 Daniel receives his charge of patience "Go thy way..." – Dan 12
- 530-522 Opposition to the Temple - [Ezr\\_4:24](#) - [Ezr\\_5:1](#)
- 530 Replacing Fasting with Obedience - [Zec\\_7:1-14](#) - [Zec\\_8:1-23](#)
- 530 Tattenai's Opposition to Temple rebuilding - [Ezr\\_5:2-17](#)
- 522-486 Darius the Mede (?) if so, Daniel about 99 yrs old - [Dan\\_6:1-28](#)
- 522 Darius's order - Temple rebuilding resumes - [Ezr\\_6:1-14](#)
- 522 Prophecy of Haggai
- 522 Prophecy of Zechariah
- 515 Temple Completed - Dedication - [Ezr\\_6:15-22](#)
- 486-465 Ahasuerus (Xerxes)
- 486 The Book of Joel (standing temple but no king) – Joel 1 - 3
- 483 Book of Esther (see Study Note "PERSIAN KINGS" at [Est\\_1:1](#)) - [Est\\_1:1-22](#)
- 483 Esther Is Made Queen - [Est\\_2:1-23](#)
- 480-440 Opposition to Rebuilding Jerusalem - [Ezr\\_4:6-23](#)
- 474 Haman's Plot to Destroy the Jews - [Est\\_3:1-20](#) - [Est\\_8:1-17](#)
- 474 The Countermand to Save the Jews - [Est\\_9:1-32](#) - [Est\\_10:1-3](#)
- 465 Assassination of Ahasuerus
- 465-424 Artaxerxes I (son of Ahasuerus - Xerxes I)
- 465-460 The Book of Malachi – Mal 1 – 4
- 458 Arrival & Work of Ezra the Scribe - [Ezr\\_7:1-28](#) - [Ezr\\_8:1-20](#)
- 455 Books of Chronicles & Priestly Genealogies - [1Ch 1:1](#) - [1Ch 9:1-34](#)

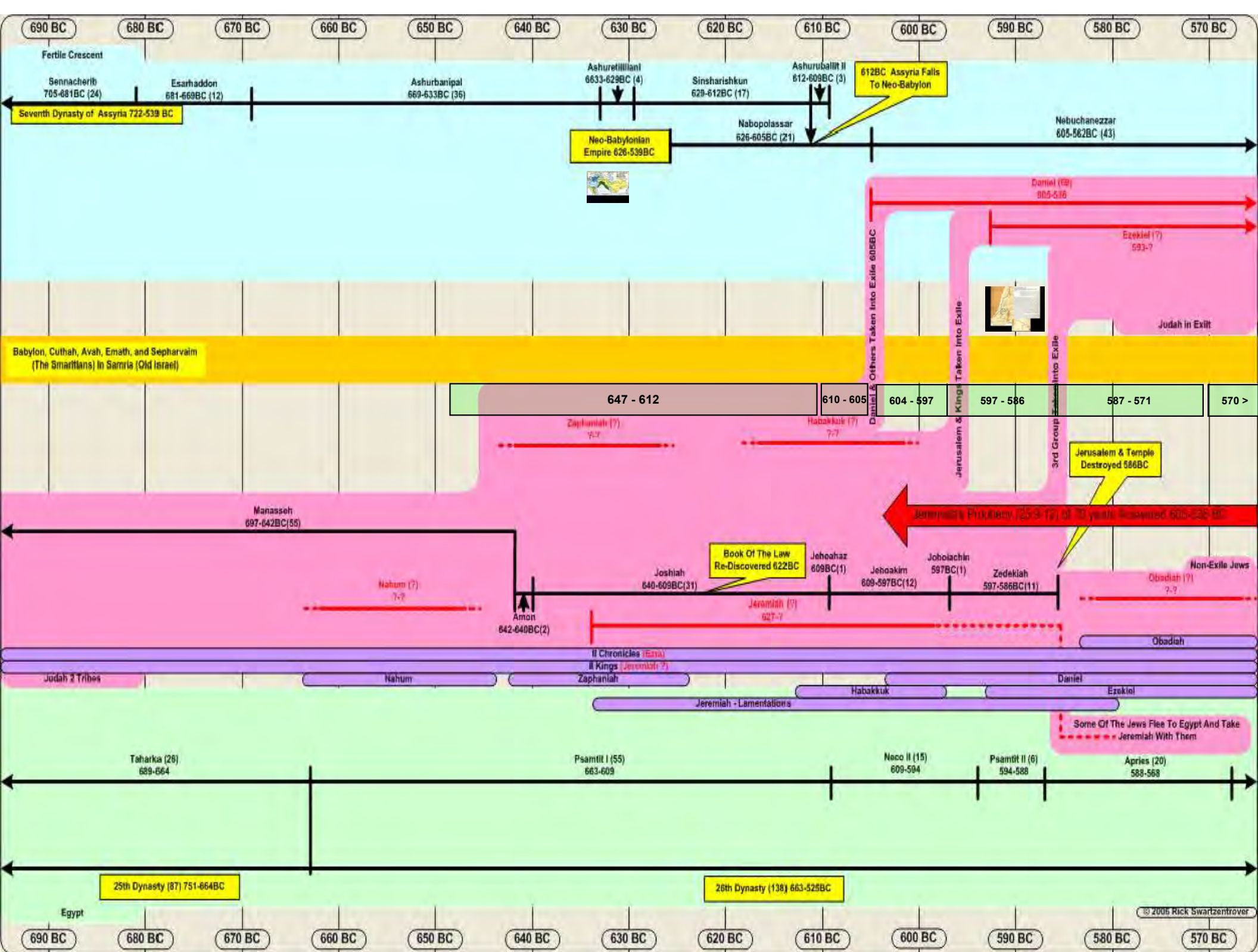
- 445 The Book of Nehemiah - Neh\_1:1-11
- 445 Nehemiah Sent to Jerusalem - Neh\_1:1 - Neh\_6:14
- 437 Building the Walls - Neh\_6:15 - Neh\_7:1-73 a
- 437 Ezra Reads the Law - Neh\_7:73 b - Neh:10:1-39
- 437 Wisdom Psalms - Psa 1, Psa 91, Psa 119
- 437 The Names of the Returned Exiles - Neh\_11:1-36 - Neh\_12:1-47
- 437 Songs of Ascents - Psa\_120:1 - Psa\_134:1
- 437 Nehemiah and the Levites - Neh\_12:31-47
- 437 The Last Word in Praise - Psa 104, Psa 111 - 118, Psa 135 - 136; Psa 145 - 150
- 434 Nehemiah's Religious Reforms - Neh\_13:1-22
- 434 The Sabbath After the Exile - Psa\_92:1-15
- 433 Nehemiah & Ezra dealing with Foreign Wives - Neh\_13:23-31 Ezz\_9:1-20 - Ezz\_10:1-44

- END OF OLD TESTAMENT RECORD -

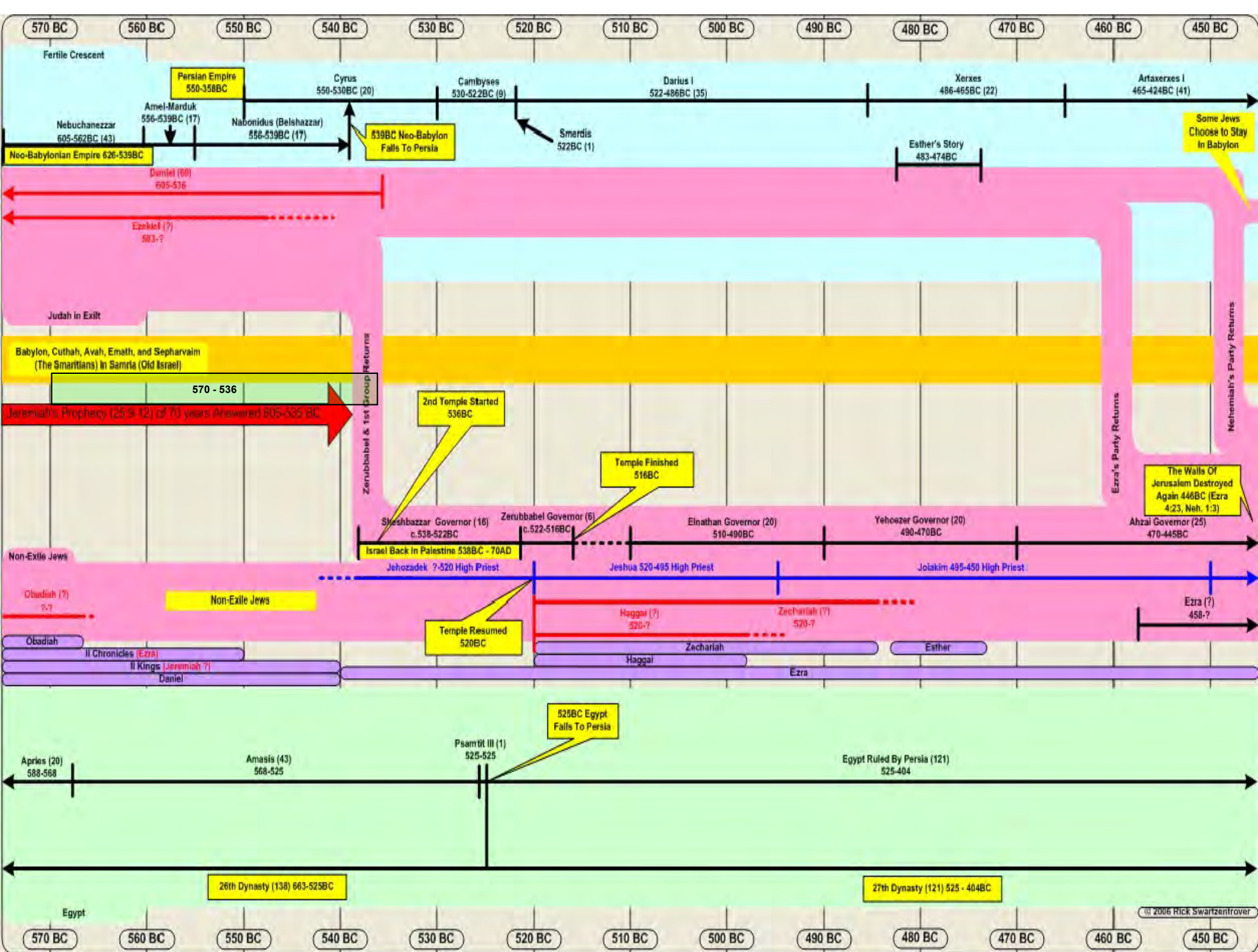


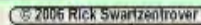














## A LULL IN THE SIEGE

Hophra's attack succeeded at least temporarily (Jer. 37:1-21). The Babylonians had to pull away from Jerusalem to counter the threat from the south (37:8). Jeremiah warned that the siege would be renewed (37:8), but even he took advantage of the temporary lifting of travel restrictions.

It seems that at this unlikely moment Jeremiah's message changed. On the eve of the greatest calamity in all the history of the kingdom, the prophet began to proclaim salvation. Traveling to his hometown of Anathoth in Zedekiah's 10th year (587 B.c.), Jeremiah officially signed the deed to a plot of land he had inherited (Jer.32). This he did as a sign that once again the inhabitants of the land would be free landowners (32:13-15). God would keep His covenant promises to His people (ch. 33), and His covenant with King David (33:17-22;23:1-8).

It is possible that all of Jeremiah's messages of hope were delivered at this time, most notably the so-called "Book of Consolation" in Jer. 30; 31. If so, the new message did Jeremiah little good. Upon his return to Jerusalem, he was arrested as a Babylonian sympathizer. Zedekiah continued to consult the imprisoned Jeremiah, but the king feared the leaders in the city, as well as those who had already defected to the Babylonians (Jer. 38). He did not have the courage to make the right choices.

## ZEDEKIAH'S JERUSALEM CONFERENCE

Almost immediately after becoming king, , Zedekiah sponsored a conference of local nations. At this conference in Jerusalem, messengers from these neighboring lands discussed the possibility of a united rebellion against their Babylonian master. Excited by the possibilities, many prophets in Jerusalem began to foretell a great victory and the restoration of all that Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the city. As usual, Jeremiah was the lone dissenting voice. He declared that Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon was only doing God's will (Jer. 27:6), and prophesied disaster on all who opposed Babylon.

Many of the oracles against the foreign nations (chs.46-51) fit in this context.

Jeremiah's message to Judah's neighbors was that the Lord would allow them to survive if they surrendered to the control of Babylon (JeL 27:1-11). Those who did not would fall to the invading Babylonian armies (48:1—49:39; 25:15-38). He had the same message for Zedekiah and Judah, despite the predictions of peace by such false prophets as Hananiah (27:12-28:17).

This conference is placed by Jer. 27:1 at "the beginning" of Jehoiakim's reign. Some Hebrew manuscripts and some major versions read "Zedekiah" in place of "Jehoiakim," and Jer. 27:3 refers to King Zedekiah. Since the oracle takes place after Nebuchadnezzar had plundered the temple in 597 B.C. (27:20), it should be dated with Jer. 28:1 in Zedekiah's 4th year (593 s.c.).

- Jeremiah 27:1-11
- Jeremiah 48:1—49:39
- Jeremiah 25:15-38
- Jeremiah 27:12—28:17